



Representative Louise M. Slaughter
Chairwoman, House Committee on Rules
Representing New York's 28th District

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEAS E

Thursday, May 7, 2009

□

Slaughter Applauds \$1 Billion in President's Budget for High-Speed Rail

□

Funding Level Marks An Historic Commitment to High-Speed Rail

□

Washington, DC – Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, today applauded the inclusion of \$1,000,000,000 for high-speed rail projects in President Barack Obama's fiscal year 2010 budget.

"I applaud President Obama's forward-thinking support of high-speed rail which is what we need to transform our nation's transportation system for the future," said Rep. Slaughter.

Rep. Slaughter is a foremost proponent of the "third track initiative", the high-speed rail project for Upstate New York. The "third track initiative" would be eligible for federal high-speed rail funding and Rep. Slaughter intends to lead the bi-partisan Upstate New York Caucus and other key stakeholders in the effort to obtain a portion of this funding.

“The lack of reliable, efficient transportation has only compounded the problems of regions hit hardest by this economic crisis, namely Upstate New York,” Slaughter continued.

“A high-speed rail line will boost economic activity, make our cities more accessible and attractive for business and tourism, and create good jobs.”

The budget specifies \$1,000,000,000 for the Federal Railroad Administration to administer grants to states to invest in high-speed passenger rail capacity. These investments will address five primary transportation priorities: (1) optimize existing transportation infrastructure; (2) build a foundation for economic competitiveness; (3) promote energy efficiency and environmental quality; (4) support inter-connected, livable communities; and (5) ensure safe transportation.

###

□

□

**United States House of Representatives
2469 Rayburn House Office Building • Washington, DC 20515**

(202) 225-3615 phone • (202) 225-7822 fax • www.louise.house.gov